

Appln. No. 10/766,732  
Amdt. dated: November 7, 2005  
Reply to Office Action dated Aug. 23, 2005

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A laptop computer carrying case of a generally parallelepiped form, comprising:
  - a front panel, a rear panel spaced apart and opposed from said front panel;
  - a pair of side panels opposed to each other and attached to said front and rear panels along corresponding side edges of said front and rear panels;
  - a base panel attached to said front, rear and side panels along a base edge defined respectively on each of said front rear and side panels;
  - at least one strap having first and second opposing faces attached at a proximal end to each of said side panels, each of said straps having a latching structure disposed at a distal end thereof for releasably securing said distal ends to each other, and a length adjustable section permitting said strap to be adjusted from at least a first length to a second length, wherein at least a portion of one of said first and second faces of each said strap extends substantially adjacent to a face of a respective one of said side panels when a laptop computer is disposed within said carrying case.
2. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 1, further comprising a cover flap attached to said carrying case that extends across an opening in said carrying case defined by said front, rear and side panels, said cover flap having an overlap with said front panel when secured in a latched position.
3. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 2, further comprising a latch point positioner, said latch point positioner selectively controlling a slack in said cover flap.
4. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 3, wherein said slack at least partially encloses an auxiliary carrying case volume exclusive of a main volume defined by said front, rear, base and side panels.
5. (Currently amended) A laptop computer carrying case of a generally parallelepiped form, comprising:

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a front panel, a rear panel spaced apart and opposed from said front panel;  
a pair of side panels attached to said front and rear panels along corresponding side  
edges of said front and rear panels;

a base panel attached to said front, rear and side panels along a base edge defined  
respectively on each of said front rear and side panels;

at least one strap attached at a proximal end to each of said side panels, each of said  
straps having a latching structure disposed at a distal end thereof for releasably securing said  
distal ends to each other, and a length adjustable section permitting said strap to be adjusted  
from at least a first length to a second length; and ~~The laptop computer carrying case according~~  
~~to claim 1,~~ wherein a width of said straps is approximately the same as a distance between said  
front panel and said rear panel.

6. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 1, wherein at least a first portion of said strap is comprised of a resilient pad material.
7. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 6, wherein said resilient pad material is disposed within a protective outer fabric layer.
8. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 6 wherein said first portion of said strap has a length extending a predetermined distance beyond an edge of said side wall defining an opening in said case, whereby said strap provides a protective covering for at least a portion of an oversized laptop computer disposed in said carrying case.
9. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 6 wherein at least a second portion of said strap is formed from an elastic material.
10. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 1, wherein said first length is approximately 50% of the distance between said side panels.
11. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 10, wherein said second length is between about 60% and 90% of the distance between said side panels.
12. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 11 wherein at least a portion of said strap is formed from an elastic material.

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13. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 1 wherein said latching structure is a buckle.
14. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 1 wherein at least a portion of said strap is formed from an elastic material.
15. (Currently amended) A laptop computer carrying case of a generally parallelepiped form, comprising:
- a front panel, a rear panel spaced apart and opposed from said front panel;
  - a pair of side panels opposed to each other and attached to said front and rear panels along corresponding side edges of said front and rear panels;
  - a base panel attached to said front, rear and side panels along a base edge defined respectively on each of said front rear and side panels;
  - a cover flap attached to said carrying case that extends across an opening defined by said front, rear and side panels, said cover flap having an overlap with said front panel when secured in a latched position
  - a latch point positioner, said latch point positioner selectively ~~controlling~~ controlling a slack in said cover flap, said slack at least partially enclosing an auxiliary carrying case volume exclusive of a main volume defined by said front, rear, base and side panels; and
  - at least one strap extending from said side panel and substantially covering a gap area between said side panel and said cover flap.
16. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 15, wherein at least one of said straps is attached at a proximal end to each of said side panels, each of said straps having a latching structure disposed at a distal end thereof for releasably securing said distal ends to each other.
17. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 15, wherein said strap includes a length adjustable section permitting said strap to be adjusted from at least a first length to a second length.
18. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 17, wherein said first length is approximately 50% of the distance between said side panels.

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19. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 18, wherein said second length is between about 60% and 90% of the distance between said side panels.
20. (Currently amended) ~~The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 15,~~ A laptop computer carrying case of a generally parallelepiped form, comprising:  
a front panel, a rear panel spaced apart and opposed from said front panel;  
a pair of side panels attached to said front and rear panels along corresponding side edges of said front and rear panels;  
a base panel attached to said front, rear and side panels along a base edge defined respectively on each of said front rear and side panels;  
a cover flap attached to said carrying case that extends across an opening defined by said front, rear and side panels, said cover flap having an overlap with said front panel when secured in a latched position  
a latch point positioner, said latch point positioner selectively controlling a slack in said cover flap, said slack at least partially enclosing an auxiliary carrying case volume exclusive of a main volume defined by said front, rear, base and side panels; and  
at least one strap extending from said side panel and substantially covering a gap area between said side panel and said cover flap;  
wherein said strap has a width at least approximately the same as a distance between said front panel and said rear panel.
21. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 15, wherein at least a first portion of said strap is comprised of a resilient pad material.
22. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 21 wherein said resilient pad material is disposed within a protective outer fabric layer.
23. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 21 wherein said first portion of said strap has a length sufficient to extend a predetermined distance beyond an edge of said side wall defining an opening in said case, whereby a protective covering is provided for at least a portion of an oversized laptop computer disposed in said carrying case.
24. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 15 wherein at least a portion of said strap is comprised of an elastic material and a portion of said strap is comprised of a resilient pad material.

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25. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 24 wherein said resilient pad material covers at least a gap area between said side panel and said cover flap that is created by said slack.
26. (Currently amended) A laptop computer carrying case of a generally parallelepiped form, comprising:
- a front panel, a rear panel spaced apart and opposed from said front panel;
  - a pair of side panels attached to said front and rear panels along corresponding side edges of said front and rear panels;
  - a base panel attached to said front, rear and side panels along a base edge defined respectively on each of said front rear and side panels;
  - a cover flap attached to said carrying case that extends across an opening defined by said front, rear and side panels, said cover flap having an overlap with said front panel when secured in a latched position
  - a latch point positioner, said latch point positioner selectively ~~controlling~~ controlling a slack in said cover flap, said slack at least partially enclosing an auxiliary carrying case volume exclusive of a main volume defined by said front, rear, base and side panels;
  - at least one strap extending from each of said side panels and substantially covering a gap area between said side panel and said cover flap, each of said straps attached at a proximal end to each of said side panels, and having a latching structure disposed at a distal end thereof for releasably securing said distal ends to each other, and wherein said straps include a length adjustable section permitting said strap to be adjusted from at least a first length to a second length.
27. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 26 wherein at least a portion of said strap is comprised of an elastic material and a portion of said strap is comprised of a resilient pad material.
28. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 27 wherein said resilient pad material covers at least a gap area between said side panel and said cover flap that is created by said slack.
29. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 28 wherein said resilient pad material is disposed within a protective outer fabric layer.

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30. (Cancelled)
31. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 26 wherein said first length is approximately 50% of the distance between said side panels.
32. (Original) The laptop computer carrying case according to claim 31, wherein said second length is between about 60% and 90% of the distance between said side panels.

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